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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Korea

DATE: 25X1

SUBJECT Economic Information: Food Conditions and
Commodity Prices in Chongjin

INFO.

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1. In the Chongjin (Seishin) (129-49, 41-46) area there is an acute shortage of such staple foods as rice and cornmeal.
2. Fish and other sea food, however, are plentiful and cheap, because this has been an especially good year for the fishermen.
3. The main staple food of the people in Chongjin is bean cake. Anyone having cornmeal to eat is regarded as "upper class".
4. Many of the poor people in Chongjin have skinned the bark off pine trees in the Chongjin area and have used it for food.
5. Commodity Prices in Chongjin:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Price</u>
Cornmeal	1 Tu	1300-1400 Won
Rice	1 Tu	1900 Won
Bean Cake	1 Cake	1100 Won

Note: one tu of rice and cornmeal each weighs 30 chin or about 40 pounds.

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